

Family Life Education

What is currently in place:

- mindset that parents are primary educators
- diocesan curricular objectives at every grade level
- integrated lessons to achieve objectives, mostly in Religion and Science classes
- good instructional materials as tool for teachers

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What parents are requesting:

- link between school and home in this area
- specific instruction related to emotional and physical changes of the pre-teen years
- tool to assist parents in home discussions with their own child(ren) regarding human reproduction and associated moral issues

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What is new/upcoming:

- #1. student materials to take home for discussion with mom/dad for grades 4 – 8
- #2. lesson each year for fifth grade students by Catholic pediatricians
- #3. resource for parents to use with children at home

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#1 – new student materials:

- published by Sadlier Catholic Publishing Company
- *God's Own Making, Catholic Values of Human Sexuality*
- on display here tonight

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God's Own Making, Catholic Values of Human Sexuality:

- 3 basic themes addressed in each grade level:

Session 1: Respect for Life

Session 2: Sexuality as Relational

Session 3: Life-Giving, Love-Giving

- each session has a four-page leaflet for children to bring home

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Each four-page leaflet includes:

- a clear presentation of Catholic values of human sexuality
- issues faced by today's young people addressed in an age-appropriate manner
- scripture passages and prayers as integral parts of each lesson
- a journal activity providing time for reflection and/or sharing
- family activities that promote conversation and communication at home

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#2 – lesson each year for fifth grade students by Catholic pediatricians:

- Dr. Ana Lomoutte & Dr. Jerry Hough
- *All About Me* – the physical and emotional changes associated with puberty, the wonders of life
- Wednesday April 21, 2010 (first trimester in future years)
- parents welcome to attend
- optional, individual parent's choice
- fourth *God's Own Making* student leaflet at grade 5
- will also do with 6th graders this year

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#3 – resource for parents to use with children at home:

- Sadlier's book *Between You and Your Child*
- gift for each family here tonight
- helps parent educate your child in an understanding of human sexuality; helps parents root sex ed in Catholic teaching
- YOU decide if, when, how to use this tool with each of your unique children of God